

Remarks

Claims 1 – 4 and 8 are pending in this application. Claims 1 – 4 and 8 have been rejected in the current Office Action. New claim 15 is added in this response.

Claims 1, 4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) or, in the alternative, as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over US Patent No. 6,410,464, issued to Menzies. Claims 1 – 4 and 8 were also rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over US Patent No. 6,455,133, issued to Furukawa. Claim 1 has been amended to provide that the copolymer is formed via free radical polymerization. It is respectfully submitted that neither Menzies nor Furukawa disclose, teach or suggest a copolymer formed via free radical polymerization. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 – 4, 8 and 15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) in view of Menzies and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of Menzies or Furukawa.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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